

Now the green
blade
DBR.E.10

EASTER PRAYER (NCP)

Something a bit different today, from the gospel-based Easter reflections we've been sharing these couple of weeks at this time. And I begin with a rather long quotation, from a lecture given in 1921 — I mention the date simply because it may help to "place" some of the minor details in the piece that may sound very old-fashioned: the lecture was on 'Science and Christ'.
 @@ MP 402 p1

That was from a 1921 lecture on 'Science and Christ', by the late Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. In some way, that was a prophetic piece perhaps more true now, 61 years later: and in some sense also it's in part prophecy fulfilled. I quote it because it is really such an Easter message: also because Teilhard de Chardin was himself so much, in his own life, a disciple of the Risen Christ, seeing so clearly the Resurrection of Christ as the meaning and centre of the whole universe, of everything: and because this Saturday (1st May) marks the end of the Teilhard centennial year — he was born on 1st May, 1881. He died 27 years ago, in New York City, on Easter Day, a day that he'd said shortly before would be for him the most perfect day to die. A few years later, when his writings began to be published and translated, Teilhard became something of a cult-figure, a well-known and influential name, a best-seller. Many people then found new inspiration and fresh life for their faith from him. But now, you don't hear about him quite so much, even during the year that's just

gone by, with its international Teilhard conferences (France's President François Mitterand spoke at one of them), a special stamp (also from France), new books, radio & television 'specials'. But his vision of the risen Christ still has much we can learn from, for the living of a religious and Christian life in the tensions of today's world. Writing to his sister on the occasion of some crisis, he said: 'You are looking at your crucifix from the wrong side. It's not only the cross we should see, but Jesus Christ upon the cross'. He certainly never ceased to see the cross and feel its significance: he contemplated the crucified Christ, and his faith was so strong that in the crucified he always at the same time saw the Risen Christ. || For a prayer in music today, from a Mass by a fellow modern

ERA-0.199 Frenchman, Maurice Durufle MUSIC "Sanctus" ERA-0.199¹³
 PRAYERS

@@. MP 402 p3